

**From:** jnewk  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/18/02 4:52pm  
**Subject:** USAGNewkirk\_Jay\_1077\_0116

255091 Pioneer Way NW  
Poulsbo, WA 98370

January 18, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing you today to encourage the Department of Justice to accept the Microsoft antitrust settlement. The terms of the settlement are fair and the technology industry needs to move forward.

Many people think that Microsoft got off easy; this is simply not true. The settlement was arrived at after extensive negotiations with a court-appointed mediator. The company agreed to terms that extend well beyond the products and procedures that were actually at issue in the suit, simply for the sake of wrapping up the suit.

Microsoft is far and away the technology industry's leader. During these tough times the industry needs its leader to be able to concentrate on business, not government over regulation. The industry needs to move on and regain the momentum that it once possessed.

The terms of the settlement are fair and it is time for the entire industry to move forward. Please accept the Microsoft antitrust settlement.

Sincerely,

Jay Newkirk